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PLASMA APPARATUS

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# **ABSTRACT:**

PURPOSE: To compensate the difference of loss differing based on the difference of length of electricity supplying cables and the types of rectifying circuits and provide stable plasma by detecting effective transmitted electric power supplied to a plasma chamber by an electric power detecting circuit and carrying out negative feedback of the detected value as an electric power detected value to a high frequency electric power source.

CONSTITUTION: An electric power detecting circuit 40 to detect effective transmitted electric power to a plasma chamber 20 detects high frequency electric current flowing through a rectifying circuit 30 by a current transformer 41. The detected current is transformed into voltage through a terminal resistor 42 and the voltage of a high

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frequency output sent out through the rectifying circuit 30 is detected by dividing the voltage by voltage dividing resistors 43, 44. Detected current of the high frequency output detected by the current transformer 41 and current of a local electric power source 45 are multiplied by a double balanced mixer 46a to carry out frequency mixing and the divided voltage and the voltage of the electric power source 45 are multiplied by a mixer 46b to carry out mixing. After passing a high band interfereing filter 47, the outputs of the mixer 46a, 46b are multiplied by a multiplier 48 and converted into low frequency by a low ban filter 49 and thus high frequency electric power can be detected. As effective transmitted electric power value, the detected value is turned back to the electric power source 3 side by negative feedback.

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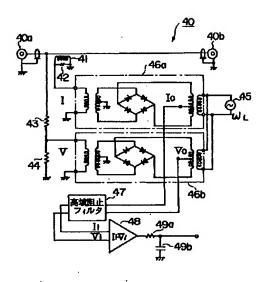
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# (54) 【発明の名称】 プラズマ装置

## (57)【要約】

【目的】 給電ケーブル長さの違い、整合回路の機種による損失の差が補正され、プラズマチャンバーに確実に指定有効パワーを伝送でき、より安定なプラズマを発生することができるプラズマ装置を得る。

【構成】 プラズマチャンバーへ供給される有効伝送電力を検出しその検出値を高周波電源に電力検出値として与えて負帰還をかける電力検出回路40を、プラズマチャンバーに伝送される高周波出力の電圧及び電流を検出する電流変成器41及び分圧抵抗43と44、検出された高周波出力の電圧及び電流を異なる周波数成分と乗算して周波数混合するダブルバランスドミキサー46aと46b、その出力の高周波成分を除去する高域阻止フィルタ47、このフィルタを介した電圧と電流の乗算を行う集積回路でなる乗算器48と、その出力の直流分のみを分離する抵抗49aとコンデンサ49bでなる低域フィルタとで構成した。



41:電流波成器

43、44:分比张苏

46a.46b:ダブルパランスドミキサー(混合器)

7:斉周波阻止フィルタ

8:樂算器

494 496: フィルタを構成する抵抗とコンデンサ

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#### 【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 高周波電力設定値と電力検出値との比較差に応じて利得が制御されて上記高周波電力設定値に応じた高周波出力を送出する高周波電源と、この高周波電源からの高周波出力が伝送されてプラズマ放電するプラズマチャンバーと、上記高周波電源と上記プラズマチャンバーとの間に設けられて電源インピーダンスとプラズマ放電インピーダンスとの整合を取る整合回路と、上記プラズマチャンバーへ供給される有効伝送電力を検出し、その検出値を上記高周波電源に電力検出値として負 10帰還をかける電力検出回路とを備え、給電系の損失を補償してプラズマ放電を安定化させることを特徴とするプラズマ装置。

【請求項2】 上記電力検出回路は、上記プラズマチャンバーに伝送される高周波出力の電圧と電流を検出する検出手段と、検出された高周波出力の電圧及び電流を異なる周波数成分と乗算して周波数混合する混合器と、この混合器から出力される電圧及び電流の高周波成分を除去する高域阻止フィルタと、この高域阻止フィルタを介した電圧と電流の乗算を行う集積回路でなる乗算器と、この乗算器の出力の直流分のみを分離する低域フィルタとを備えたことを特徴とする請求項1記載のプラズマ装置。

### 【発明の詳細な説明】

#### [0001]

【産業上の利用分野】この発明は、高周波電源からプラ ズマ放電するプラズマチャンバーに伝送する供給電力を 制御して安定したプラズマを発生させるためのプラズマ 装置に関するものである。

#### [0002]

【従来の技術】図5に従来のプラズマ装置を示す構成図である。図5において、1は高周波(以下RFとも称す)大電力を発生する高周波電源、20はこの高周波電源1から整合回路を介して高周波電力が供給されてプラズマを発生するプラズマ発生部としてのプラズマチャンバー、30は上記高周波電源1と上記プラズマチャンバー20との間に設けられて電源のインピーダンスとプラズマ放電インピーダンスとの整合を取るための整合回路である。

【0003】ここで、上記高周波電源1としては、発振 40 源としての水晶発振子2、水晶発振子2に基づく高周波 出力を送出する発振回路3、発振回路3から出力される 高周波出力の利得を調整する利得調整回路4、利得調整 回路4を介した高周波出力を増幅する電力増幅回路5、入射電力及び反射電力を検出する電力検出回路6、電力 検出回路6により検出されるプラズマチャンバー20に 対する入射電力と高周波電力設定値(RF電力設定値)\*

\*との比較差を求める減算器7、この減算器7から出力される比較差に基づいて上記利得調整回路4の利得を制御する利得制御回路8を備えている。

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【0004】また、上記整合回路30としては、可変コンデンサ30a、チョーク30b、このチョーク30bと組み合せてインダクタンス分を調整するための可変コンデンサ30cを備えており、50a、50bは高周波電源と整合回路30とプラズマチャンバー20との間にそれぞれ設けられた給電ケーブル(同軸ケーブル)である。

【0005】さらに、上記高周波電源1内の電力検出回路6としては図6に示す構成を備えている。図6において、6aはパワー増幅器5と整合回路30との間に流れる電流を検出する電流変成器、6b、6cは終端抵抗、6d、6eは入射波と反射波を検波するためのダイオード、6fは電圧を検出するための電圧結合回路、6g、6hはフィルタ、6i、6jは2乗回路、6kと61は高周波入力端子と出力端子である。

【0006】次に動作について説明する。高周波電源1の出力パワーは、高周波電源1の出力部に設置されている電力検出回路6により入射パワーとして検出される。この信号とRF電力設定値との比較差に応じて利得制御回路8により利得調整回路4の利得が制御されて、この利得調整回路4を経た出力は電力増幅器5によりパワー増幅される。この電力制御のループにより、高周波電源1の出力は、RF電力設定値に応じた出力を発振することができる。

【0007】上記高周波電源1の電源出力は給電ケーブル50aを介して整合回路30へ送られる。この整合回30路30の機能は電源インピーダンス(通常50公が多い)とプラズマ放電インピーダンスの整合をとるためのもので、内蔵されている可変コンデンサ30a、30cを調整することにより、整合回路30の入力側は給電ケーブル及び電源側をみたインピーダンス(50公)になり、出力側はプラズマ側をみたインピーダンスがRーjxの時、整合回路30の出力側から電源側をみた時のインピーダンスがR+jx、すなわち、この点において、左右をみたインピーダンスは複素共役インピーダンスの関係になり、最大電力伝送の条件が成り立ち、プラズマ40チャンバー20へ高周波電力のパワーを伝送させプラズマ放電ができる。

【0008】ここで、高周波電源1の出力部に設置されている電力検出回路6において、電流変成器6aで検出された電流は終端抵抗6b、6cにより電圧Vi に変換される。また、電圧結合回路6fにより検出される電圧をVv とすれば、次式に基づいて入射電力及び反射電力が検出される。

$$V_1 = K (I_F + I_R) = V_{F1} + V_{R1}$$
 (1)  
 $V_u = V_F - V_R$  (2)

IR とVR は反射波による電流及び電圧成分、IF とV※50※F は入射波による電流及び電圧成分、Kは比例定数を示

3

し、電流と電圧は反射が逆相になるため、符号が異なる。Vr1とVrが等しくなるように設定すると、

 $V_F = 1/2 (V_i + V_v)$  $V_R = 1/2 (V_i - V_v)$ 

上式に示す関係が成り立つ。そして、上式を2乗回路6 i、6jを通すことにより電力を検出している。ただ し、この時の負荷インピーダンスは50Ωの抵抗と限定 されている。

## [0009]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】ところで、上述した従 10 来のプラズマ装置における給電方式は、高周波電源1の出力端の高周波電力がRF電力設定値になるように制御しているため、給電ケーブル50a、50b、及び整合回路30でのロスが発生し、このロスも10数%の値のとなり、プラズマチャンバー20に伝送される真の有効伝送電力が不正確となり、給電ケーブル長さの違い、整合回路の機種等により装置間に機差が生じるという問題点があった。

【0010】この発明は上記のような問題点を解消するためになされたもので、給電ケーブル長さの違い、整合 20 回路の機種による損失の差が補正され、プラズマチャンバーに確実に指定有効パワーを伝送でき、より安定なプラズマを発生することができるプラズマ装置を得ることを目的とする。

# [0011]

【課題を解決するための手段】この発明に係るアラズマ装置は、高周波電力設定値と電力検出値との比較差に応じて利得が制御されて上記高周波電力設定値に応じた高周波出力を送出する高周波電源と、この高周波電源からの高周波出力が伝送されてアラズマ放電するアラズマチッンバーと、上記高周波電源と上記アラズマチャンバーとの間に設けられて電源インピーダンスとアラズマ放電インピーダンスとの整合を取る整合回路と、上記アラズマチャンバーへ供給される有効伝送電力を検出し、その検出値を上記高周波電源に電力検出値として負帰還をかける電力検出回路とを備え、給電系の損失を補償してアラズマ放電を安定化させることを特徴とするものである。

【0012】また、上記電力検出回路として、上記プラズマチャンバーに伝送される高周波出力の電圧と電流を 40検出する検出手段と、検出された高周波出力の電圧及び電流を異なる周波数成分と乗算して周波数混合する混合器と、この混合器から出力される電圧及び電流の高周波成分を除去する高域阻止フィルタと、この高域阻止フィルタを介した電圧と電流の乗算を行う集積回路でなる乗算器と、この乗算器の出力の直流分のみを分離する低域フィルタとを備えたことを特徴とするものである。

#### [0013]

【作用】この発明に係るプラズマ装置においては、電力 5、後述する電力検出回路40により検出される有効 検出回路により、プラズマチャンバーへ供給される有効※50 力値を負帰還してその有効電力値と高周波電力設定値

\*(1),(2) より

(4)

(5)

※伝送電力を検出し、その検出値を高周波電源に電力検出値として負帰還をかけることにより、給電系の損失を補償してプラズマ放電を安定化させることができ、給電ケーブル長さの違い、整合回路の機種による損失の差が補正され、プラズマチャンバーに確実に指定有効パワーを伝送でき、より安定なプラズマを発生することができる。

【0014】また、上記電力検出回路として、上記プラ ズマチャンバーに伝送される高周波出力の電圧と電流を 検出する検出手段と、検出された高周波出力の電圧及び 電流を異なる周波数成分と乗算して周波数混合する混合 器と、この混合器から出力される電圧及び電流の高周波 成分を除去する高域阻止フィルタと、この高域阻止フィ ルタを介した電圧と電流の乗算を行う集積回路でなる乗 算器と、この乗算器の出力の直流分のみを分離する低域 フィルタとを備えたことにより、高周波を低周波に変換 し、低周波での電圧及び電流の位相関係を保持しつつ高 周波での電力演算を低周波の演算に置き換え、集積回路 でなる電圧及び電流の乗算器が充分安定的に動作できる 周波数帯域で高周波電力を演算することができ、伝送路 の特性インピーダンスに関係無く正確な電力が検出可能 で、電圧及び電流の乗算結果に基づく有効電力値を高周 波電源に対して負帰還をかけることにより、正確な伝送 有効電力の制御を行うことができる。

[0015]

# 30 【実施例】

実施例1.以下、この発明を図示実施例に基づいて説明する。図1は実施例1に係るプラズマ装置を示す概念的なブロック構成図、図2と図3は図1の高周波電源10及び整合回路30の内部構成を示す部分詳細構成図と図1の電力検出回路40の内部構成図をそれぞれ示す。これらの図において、図5に示す従来例と同一部分は同一符号を示し、20はプラズマチャンバー、30は整合回路であり、この整合回路30は、図5に示す従来例と同様に、可変コンデンサ30a、チョーク30b、このチョーク30bと組み合せてインダクタンス分を調整するための可変コンデンサ30cを備えている。

【0016】新たな符号として、10は図2に詳述する構成を有する本実施例1に係る高周波電源を示し、この高周波電源10としては、図5に示す従来例と同様に、発振源としての水晶発振子2、水晶発振子2に基づく高周波出力を送出する発振回路3、発振回路3から出力される高周波出力の利得を調整する利得調整回路4、利得調整回路4を介した高周波出力を増幅する電力増幅回路5、後述する電力検出回路40により検出される有効電力機を負援を表現を表現されて

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(RF電力設定値)との比較差を求める減算器7、この 減算器7から出力される比較差に基づいて上記利得調整 回路4の利得を制御する利得制御回路8を備えており、 従来例のような電力検出回路は内蔵していない。

【0017】また、40は図3に詳述する構成を有する 本実施例1に係る電力検出回路を示し、この電力検出回 路40としては、整合回路30を介して流れる高周波出 力の電流を検出する電流変成器41、その検出電流を電 圧へ変換するための終端抵抗42、整合回路30を介し て出力される高周波出力の電圧を分圧して検出するため 10 の分圧抵抗43及び44、ローカル電源45、上記電流 変成器41により検出される高周波出力の検出電流と上 記ローカル電源45の電流とを乗算して周波数混合する 混合器としてのダブルバランスドミキサー46aと上記 分圧抵抗43及び44により分圧された電圧と上記ロー カル電源45の電圧とを乗算して周波数混合する混合器 としてのダブルバランスドミキサー46b、上記ダブル バランスドミキサー46aと46bの出力の高周波成分 を除去するための高域阻止フィルタ47、この高域阻止 フィルタ47を介して高周波成分が除去されて出力され\*20

【0018】ここで、上記整合回路30を介して高周波入力端子40aに入力される高周波出力の周波数を $\omega$ R、ローカル電源45の信号の定数及び周波数をK及び $\omega$ Lとし、高周波出力の電圧及び電流をV及びIとして、その間の位相差を $\theta$ とすれば、混合器としての上記ダブルバランスドミキサー46a及び46bにより乗算された出力結果V0及びI0は三角の加法定理を用いて下式で示される。

$$I_{0} = I \sin (\omega_{R} t + \theta) \cdot K \sin (\omega_{L} t)$$

$$= I K / 2 \{\cos[(\omega_{R} - \omega_{L}) t + \theta] - \cos[(\omega_{R} + \omega_{L}) t + \theta]\}$$

$$V_{0} = V \sin \omega_{R} t \cdot K \sin \omega_{L} t$$

$$= V K / 2 \{\cos(\omega_{R} - \omega_{L}) t - \cos(\omega_{R} + \omega_{L}) t\}$$

$$(7)$$

【0019】(6)及び(7)式の第2項は高周波領域 ※の電力演算を値のため、高域阻止フィルタ47にて除外し、第1項の き、乗算用集制 ることができる ま積回路が充分安定的に動作する領域、例えば100 K 【0020】 48に入力され 決定するようにローカル電源45の周波数ω を 決定するようにすれば、高周波を低周波に変換し、低周 30 で表わされる。 波での電圧及び電流の位相関係を保持しつつ、高周波で※

※の電力演算を低周波での電力演算に置き換えることができ、乗算用集積回路の動作周波数で高周波電力を演算することができる。

【0020】上記高域阻止フィルタ47を介して乗算器48に入力される電圧と電流の入力信号 Iiと Vi は次式で表わされる。

$$I_{i} = I K / 2\cos [(\omega_{R} - \omega_{L}) t + \theta]$$

$$V_{i} = V K / 2\cos (\omega_{R} - \omega_{L}) t$$
(8)
(9)

乗算器48はこの両者を乗算することにより、図4に示す如く波形の電力Pを得ることができる。なお、図4において、(a)は電圧Viと電流Iiが同相の時の電力P、(b)はπ/4電流遅れの時の電力P、(c)はπ★

★/2電流遅れの時の電力Pをそれぞれ示している。 【0021】上記乗算器48により演算される電力Pの 演算式は、低周波をωωとすれば、

$$P = I \cdot V \cdot K^2 / 4 \cdot (\cos \omega_b t + \theta) \cdot \cos \omega_b t \qquad (10)$$

 $P = k' V I \cos \theta$ 

(11)

この値は、図4の斜線部分の面積であり、抵抗49a及びコンデンサ49bでなる低域フィルタを通すことにより、この値の平均値、すなわち直流分として取り出すことができる。従って、この値を伝送有効電力値として負帰還を電源側に帰還させるように制御ループを構成することにより、伝送有効電力の安定した制御が可能となる

【0022】従って、上記実施例1によれば、プラズマ チャンバー20への有効伝送電力を検出する電力検出回◆50

◆路40に、周波数混合器としてダブルバランスドミキサー46a及び46bを用いて、高周波を低周波に変換し、低周波での電圧及び電流の位相関係を保持しつつ高周波での電力演算を低周波の演算に置き換えるようにしたことにより、集積回路でなる電圧及び電流の乗算器48が充分安定的に動作できる周波数帯域で高周波電力を演算することができる。また、従来、整合回路30の出力端以後は、複素共役インピーダンス整合のため、電圧定在波が立ち、プラズマインピーダンスの影響で、通

常、特性インピーダンスが50Ωの伝送路では電力検出に誤差が大きかったが、上記実施例では、電圧及び電流の位相関係を保持しつつ両者の乗算によって電力を検出するようにしたので、伝送路の特性インピーダンスに関係無く正確な電力が検出可能であり、電圧及び電流の乗算結果に基づく有効電力値を高周波電源10の利得調整回路4に対して負帰還をかけることにより、伝送有効電力を制御できる。

【0023】実施例2.上述した実施例1では、電力検出回路40を整合回路30とプラズマチャンバー20間 10の伝送路に設けたが、上記電力検出回路40を、プラズマチャンバー20内の放電電極の近くに設置することもできる。また、整合回路30に内蔵させることもできる。この手法のように、ダブルバランスドミキサー46a及び46bを周波数混合器として用い、高周波電力の周波数を低周波に変換することにより、高周波電圧及び電流の位相、振幅等のモニターが安価にできる。

【0024】また、整合回路30の入力端におけるインビーダンスは、電圧及び電流が同相で、抵抗値は500になるように自動的に制御されるが、この時の位相差検 20出にも、図3のローカル電源45を用いることなく、ローカル周波数を入力するかわりに、高周波電圧を入力することにより、電流、電圧の位相差を知ることができる。インビーダンスの絶対値は、図3と同様にダブルバランスドミキサー及び除算器を用いて低周波域で演算させ、この値と前述の位相差を用いて整合回路の制御信号とすることができる。

【0025】この発明は次のような態様に従って実施できる。

- ・高周波電源10に電力検出回路40を内蔵させる。
- ・整合回路30に電力検出回路40を内蔵させる。
- ・プラズマチャンバー20に電力検出回路40を付帯させる。

#### [0026]

【発明の効果】以上のように、この発明によれば、電力 検出回路により、アラズマチャンバーへ供給される有効 伝送電力を検出し、その検出値を高周波電源に電力検出 値として負帰還をかけることにより、給電系の損失を補 償してアラズマ放電を安定化させることができ、給電ケ ーブルの種別、長さの違いによる損失の差、整合回路内 40 部の熱損失の差及び機種による損失の差がすべて補償さ れプラズマチャンバーに確実に指定有効パワーを伝送でき、プラズマの安定化が計れると、ともに装置間の機差をなくすことができき、生産現場のプラズマプロセスの均一化が計れる。

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【0027】また、上記電力検出回路として、上記プラ ズマチャンバーに伝送される高周波出力の電圧と電流を 検出する検出手段と、検出された高周波出力の電圧及び 電流を異なる周波数成分と乗算して周波数混合する混合 器と、この混合器から出力される電圧及び電流の高周波 成分を除去する高域阻止フィルタと、この高域阻止フィ ルタを介した電圧と電流の乗算を行う集積回路でなる乗 算器と、この乗算器の出力の直流分のみを分離する低域 フィルタとを備えたことにより、高周波を低周波に変換 し、低周波での電圧及び電流の位相関係を保持しつつ高 周波での電力演算を低周波の演算に置き換え、集積回路 でなる電圧及び電流の乗算器が充分安定的に動作できる 周波数帯域で高周波電力を演算することができ、伝送路 の特性インピーダンスに関係無く正確な電力が検出可能 で、電圧及び電流の乗算結果に基づく有効電力値を高周 波電源に対して負帰還をかけることにより、正確な伝送 有効電力の制御を行うことができる。

### 【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】 この発明の実施例1に係るプラズマ装置を示す概念的なブロック構成図である。

【図2】 図1の高周波電源及び整合回路の内部構成を 示す部分詳細構成図である。

【図3】 図1の電力検出回路の内部構成を示す回路図である。

【図4】 電力演算の説明に供する波形図である。

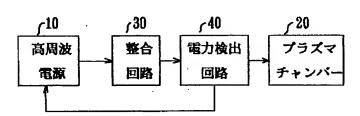
30 【図5】 従来例に係るプラズマ装置を示す構成図である。

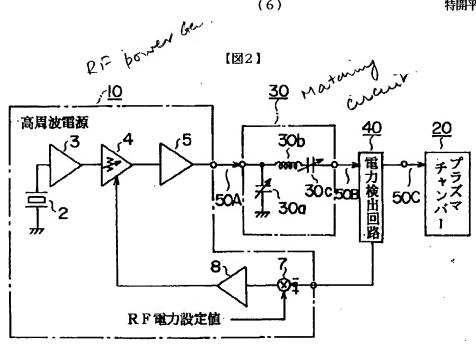
【図6】 図5の電力検出回路の内部構成を示す回路図である。

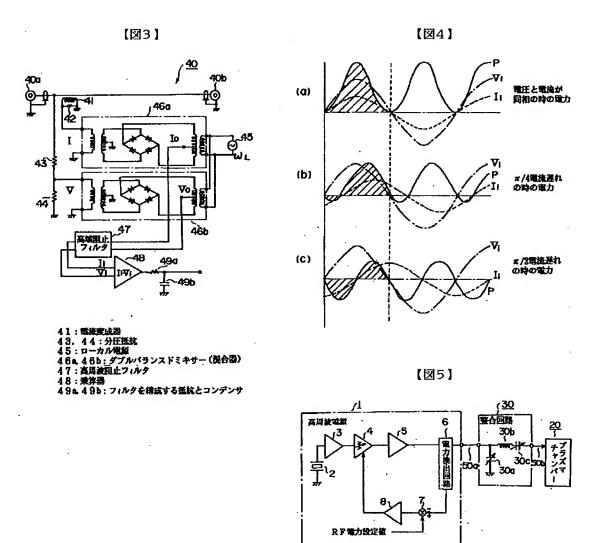
# 【符号の説明】

10 高周波電源、20 プラズマチャンバー、30 整合回路、40 電力検出回路、41 電流変成器、4 3、44 分圧抵抗、45 ローカル電源、46a、4 6b ダブルバランスドミキサー(混合器)、47 高 周波阻止フィルター、48 乗算器、49a、49b フィルタを構成する抵抗とコンデンサ。

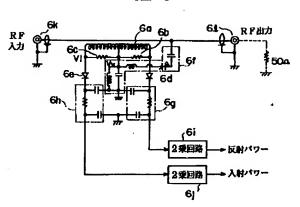
【図1】







【図6】



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## DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] It is the notional block block diagram showing the plasma equipment concerning the example 1 of this invention.

[Drawing 2] It is the partial detail block diagram showing the RF generator of drawing 1, and the internal configuration of a matching circuit.

[Drawing 3] It is the circuit diagram showing the internal configuration of the power detector of drawing 1.

[Drawing 4] It is the wave form chart with which explanation of a power operation is presented.

[Drawing 5] It is the block diagram showing the plasma equipment concerning the conventional example.

[Drawing 6] It is the circuit diagram showing the internal configuration of the power detector of drawing 5.

[Description of Notations]

10 An RF generator, 20 A plasma chamber, 30 A matching circuit, 40 A power detector, 41 43 A current transformer, 44 Partial pressure resistance, 45 Local power source, 46a, 46b A double-balanced mixer (mixer), 47 A RF inhibition filter, 48 A multiplier, 49a, 49b The resistance and the capacitor which constitute a filter.

[Translation done.]

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# DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Industrial Application] This invention relates to the plasma equipment for generating the plasma which controlled the supply voltage transmitted to the plasma chamber which carries out plasma discharge, and was stabilized from the RF generator.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] It is the block diagram showing conventional plasma equipment in <u>drawing 5</u>. In <u>drawing 5</u>, the RF generator in which 1 generates RF (it is also called Following RF) large power, the plasma chamber as the plasma generating section in which high-frequency power is supplied through a matching circuit from this RF generator 1, and 20 generates the plasma, and 30 are the matching circuits for being prepared between abovementioned RF generator 1 and the above-mentioned plasma chamber 20, and taking adjustment with the impedance of a power source, and a plasma discharge impedance.

[0003] Here as above-mentioned RF generator 1 As a source of an oscillation The RF output based on \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 2 and a crystal oscillator 2 By the power detector 6 and the power detector 6 which detect the oscillator circuit 3 to send out, the gain equalization circuit 4 which adjusts the gain of the RF output outputted from an oscillator circuit 3, the power amplification circuit 5 which amplifies the RF output through the gain equalization circuit 4, incidence power, and reflective power It has the subtractor 7 which searches for the comparison difference of the incidence power and the high-frequency power set point (RF power set point) over the plasma chamber 20 detected, and the gain control circuit 8 which controls the gain of the above-mentioned gain equalization circuit 4 based on the comparison difference outputted from this subtractor 7.

[0004] Moreover, it has variable-capacitor 30c for adjusting a part for an inductance as the above-mentioned matching circuit 30 combining variable-capacitor 30a, choke 30b, and this choke 30b, and 50a and 50b are the electric supply cables (coaxial cable) formed between the matching circuit 30 and the plasma chamber 20 between an RF generator and matching circuits 30, respectively.

[0005] Furthermore, it has the configuration shown in <u>drawing 6</u> as a power detector 6 in above-mentioned RF generator 1. In <u>drawing 6</u>, the electrical-potential-difference coupled circuit for detecting diode for the current transformer which detects the current to which 6a flows between a power amplifier 5 and a matching circuit 30, and 6b and 6c detecting 6d, and for a terminator and 6e detecting an incident wave and a reflected wave, and 6f of electrical potential differences, and 6g and 6h are [ a square circuit and 6k and 6l. of a filter, and 6i and 6j ] a RF input terminal and an output terminal.

[0006] Next, actuation is explained. The output power of RF generator 1 is detected as incidence power by the power detector 6 currently installed in the output section of RF generator 1. According to the comparison difference of this signal and RF power set point, the gain of the gain equalization circuit 4 is controlled by the gain control circuit 8, and power magnification of the output which passed through this gain equalization circuit 4 is carried out by power amplifier 5. By the loop formation of this power control, the output of RF generator 1 can oscillate the output according to RF power set point.

[0007] The power outlet of above-mentioned RF generator 1 is sent to a matching circuit 30 through electric supply cable 50a. The function of this matching circuit 30 is for taking adjustment of source impedance (there is usually much 50 ohm) and a plasma discharge impedance. By adjusting the variable capacitors 30a and 30c built in The input side of a matching circuit 30 becomes the impedance (50ohms) which saw the electric supply cable and power-source side. When the impedance which saw the plasma side is R-jx, the impedance when seeing a power-source side from the output side of a matching circuit 30 sets an output side to R+jx, i.e., this point. Become the relation of a complex-

conjugate impedance, the conditions of the maximum transfer of power are realized, and the impedance which saw right and left makes the power of high-frequency power transmit to the plasma chamber 20, and can perform plasma. discharge.

[0008] The current detected by current transformer 6a here in the power detector 6 currently installed in the output section of RF generator 1 is an electrical potential difference Vi by Terminators 6b and 6c. It is changed. Moreover, it is VV about the electrical potential difference detected by 6f of electrical-potential-difference coupled circuits. Then, incidence power and reflective power are detected based on a degree type.

Vi = K(IF + IR) = VF1 + VR1 (1)

Vu = VF - VR(2)

IR VR The current by the reflected wave and a voltage component, and IF VF The current by the incident wave and a voltage component, and K show a proportionality constant, and since reflection becomes opposition, as for a current and an electrical potential difference, signs differ. VF1 and VF It is (1), when it sets up so that it may become equal (2). V < SUB > F = 1 / 2 (Vi + VV) (4)

VR = 1/2(Vi - VV) (5)

The relation shown in an upper type is realized. And power is detected by letting the square circuits 6i and 6i pass for an upper type. However, the load impedance at this time is limited with 50-ohm resistance. [0009]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] By the way, the electric supply method in the conventional plasma equipment mentioned above Since it is controlling so that the high-frequency power of the outgoing end of RF generator 1 becomes RF power set point, The loss in the electric supply cables 50a and 50b and a matching circuit 30 occurs. The next door of about ten% of value and the true effective transmission power transmitted to the plasma chamber 20 became inaccurate, and this loss also had the trouble that \*\*\*\* arose between equipment by the difference in electric supply cable die length, the model of matching circuit, etc.

[0010] It was made in order to cancel the above troubles, and the difference of loss by the difference in electric supply cable die length and the model of matching circuit is amended, this invention can transmit assignment effective power to a plasma chamber certainly, and it aims at obtaining the plasma equipment which can generate the more stable plasma.

[0011]

[Means for Solving the Problem] The RF generator to which gain is controlled and, as for the plasma equipment concerning this invention, sends out the RF output according to the above-mentioned high-frequency power set point according to the comparison difference of the high-frequency power set point and a power detection value. The plasma chamber which the high frequency output from this RF generator is transmitted, and carries out plasma discharge, The matching circuit which is prepared between the above-mentioned RF generator and the above-mentioned plasma chamber, and takes adjustment with source impedance and a plasma discharge impedance, It is characterized by detecting the effective transmission power supplied to the above-mentioned plasma chamber, having the power detector which applies the detection value to the above-mentioned RF generator for negative feedback as a power detection value, compensating loss of an electric supply system, and stabilizing plasma discharge.

[0012] Moreover, the electrical potential difference of the RF output transmitted to the above-mentioned plasma chamber as the above-mentioned power detector and a detection means to detect a current, The mixer which carries out the multiplication of the electrical potential difference and current of a RF output which were detected to a different frequency component, and carries out frequency mixing. It is characterized by having the multiplier which becomes with the electrical potential difference through the high region inhibition filter from which the high frequency component of the electrical potential difference outputted from this mixer and a current is removed, and this high region inhibition filter, and the integrated circuit which performs the multiplication of a current, and the low-pass filter which separates only an in one direction flowed part of the output of this multiplier.

[Function] That detection value by applying negative feedback to an RF generator as a power detection value by detecting the effective transmission power supplied to a plasma chamber by the power detector in the plasma equipment concerning this invention Loss of an electric supply system can be compensated, plasma discharge can be stabilized, the difference of loss by the difference in electric supply cable die length and the model of matching circuit can be amended, assignment effective power can be certainly transmitted to a plasma chamber, and the more stable plasma can be generated.

[0014] Moreover, the electrical potential difference of the RF output transmitted to the above-mentioned plasma chamber as the above-mentioned power detector and a detection means to detect a current, The mixer which carries out the multiplication of the electrical potential difference and current of a RF output which were detected to a different frequency component, and carries out frequency mixing, The high region inhibition filter from which the high frequency component of the electrical potential difference outputted from this mixer and a current is removed, By having had the multiplier which becomes with the electrical potential difference through this high region inhibition filter, and the integrated circuit which performs the multiplication of a current, and the low-pass filter which separates only an in one direction flowed part of the output of this multiplier The power operation in a RF is transposed to the operation of low frequency, changing a RF into low frequency and holding the electrical potential difference in low frequency, and the phase relation of a current. The multiplier of the electrical potential difference which becomes with an integrated circuit, and a current can calculate high-frequency power in the frequency band which can operate sufficiently stably, and can detect exact power [be/nothing] with regards to the characteristic impedance of a transmission line. By applying an electrical potential difference and the effective power value based on the multiplication result of a current for negative feedback to an RF generator, exact transmission effective power is controllable.

[0015]

[Example]

This invention is explained based on an illustration example below example 1. The notional block block diagram and drawing 2 which show the plasma equipment which drawing 1 requires for an example 1, and drawing 3 show the partial detail block diagram and the internal configuration Fig. of the power detector 40 of drawing 1 showing RF generator 10 of drawing 1, and the internal configuration of a matching circuit 30, respectively. In these drawings, the same part as the conventional example shown in drawing 5 showed the same sign, 20 is a plasma chamber, 30 is a matching circuit, and this matching circuit 30 is equipped with variable-capacitor 30c for adjusting a part for an inductance combining variable-capacitor 30a, choke 30b, and this choke 30b like the conventional example shown in drawing 5.

[0016] As a new sign, 10 shows the RF generator concerning this example 1 which has the configuration explained in full detail to drawing 2. As this RF generator 10 Like the conventional example shown in drawing 5 By the oscillator circuit 3 which sends out the RF output based on the crystal oscillator 2 as a source of an oscillation, and a crystal oscillator 2, the gain equalization circuit 4 which adjusts the gain of the RF output outputted from an oscillator circuit 3, the power amplification circuit 5 which amplifies the RF output through the gain equalization circuit 4, and the power detector 40 mentioned later It has the subtractor 7 which carries out negative feedback of the effective power value detected, and searches for the comparison difference of that effective power value and high-frequency power set point (RF power set point), and the gain control circuit 8 which controls the gain of the above-mentioned gain equalization circuit 4 based on the comparison difference outputted from this subtractor 7. A power detector like the conventional example is not built in.

[0017] 40 shows the power detector concerning this example 1 which has the configuration explained in full detail to drawing 3. Moreover, as this power detector 40 The terminator 42 for transforming into an electrical potential difference the current transformer 41 which detects the current of the RF output which flows through a matching circuit 30, and its detection current, and a matching circuit 30 are minded. With the partial pressure resistance 43 and 44 for pressuring partially and detecting the electrical potential difference of the RF output outputted, the local power source 45, and the above-mentioned current transformer 41 By double-balanced mixer 46a as a mixer and the abovementioned part piezo-resistances 43 and 44 which carry out the multiplication of the detection current of a RF output and the current of the above-mentioned local power source 45 which are detected, and carry out frequency-mixing Double-balanced mixer 46b as a mixer which carries out the multiplication of the electrical potential difference by which the partial pressure was carried out, and the electrical potential difference of the above-mentioned local power source 45, and carries out frequency-mixing, The high region inhibition filter 47 for removing the high frequency component of the output of the above-mentioned double-balanced mixers 46a and 46b and this high region inhibition filter 47 are minded. Resistance 49a and capacitor 49b which constitute the multiplier 48 which a high frequency component becomes with the integrated circuit which performs the electrical potential difference of the abovementioned double-balanced mixers 46a and 46b and the multiplication of a current which are removed and outputted, and calculates power, and the low-pass filter which separates only an in one direction flowed part of the output of this multiplier 48 It has and this circuit is made as [ acquire / the effective power value of an electric supply system ] by carrying out frequency mixing, changing into low frequency, maintaining the electrical potential difference of highfrequency power, and the phase relation of a current, performing the multiplication of an electrical potential difference and a current, and finding power. In addition, 40a and 40b are a high frequency input terminal by the side of the matching circuit 30 of the power detector 40, and a high frequency output terminal by the side of the plasma chamber

20, respectively.

[0018] Here, they are K and omegaL about the constant and frequency of a signal of omegaR and the local power source 45 in the frequency of the RF output inputted into RF input terminal 40a through the above-mentioned matching circuit 30. Carry out and the electrical potential difference and current of a RF output are set to V and I. Output V0 by which multiplication was carried out in phase contrast in the meantime by theta, then the above-mentioned double-balanced mixers 46a and 46b as a mixer And I0 It is shown by the bottom type using a triangular addition theorem. I0 = Isin (omega Rt+theta) and Ksin (omegaLt)

= IK/2 {cos [(omega R-omegaL) t+theta]-cos[(omega R+omegaL) t+theta]} (6)

V0 = VsinomegaRt-KsinomegaLt = VK/2 [cos(omega R-omegaL) t-cos(omega R+omegaL) t] (7)

[0019] (6) And the high region inhibition filter 47 excepts the 2nd term of (7) types for a RF field. It is frequency [ of the local power source 45 ] omega L so that the frequency of the difference of (omega R-omegaL) of the 1st term may become the less than field where the integrated circuit for multiplication as a multiplier 48 operates sufficiently stably, for example, 100kHz. If it is made to determine Changing a RF into low frequency and holding the electrical potential difference in low frequency, and the phase relation of a current, the power operation in a RF can be transposed to the power operation in low frequency, and high-frequency power can be calculated with the clock frequency of the integrated circuit for multiplication.

[0020] The input signals Ii and Vi of an electrical potential difference and a current inputted into a multiplier 48 through the above-mentioned quantity region inhibition filter 47 are expressed with a degree type.

Ii = IK /2cos [(omega R-omegaL) t+theta] (8)

Vi =VK /2cos(omega R-omegaL) t (9)

A multiplier 48 can obtain the wave-like power P, as by carrying out multiplication shows these both to <u>drawing 4</u>. In addition, in <u>drawing 4</u>, in (a), the power P in case an electrical potential difference Vi and Current Ii are inphases, and (b) show the power P at the time of pi / 4 current delay, and (c) shows the power P at the time of pi / 2 current delay, respectively.

[0021] The operation expression of the power P calculated with the above-mentioned multiplier 48 is omegab about low frequency. If it carries out P=I-V-K 2/4 -(cosomegabt+theta)- cosomegabt (10)

A next door and average power serve as the average of the shadow area of <u>drawing 4</u>, and the transmission power of the high-frequency power shown in a degree type as an average of a round term is obtained.

P=k'VIcostheta (11)

This value is the area of the shadow area of <u>drawing 4</u>, and can be taken out as the average of this value, i.e., an in one direction flowed part, by letting the low-pass filter which becomes by resistance 49a and capacitor 49b pass. Therefore, it becomes controllable [controllable transmission effective power was stabilized] by constituting a control loop by making this value into a transmission effective power value, so that negative feedback may be returned to a power-source side.

[0022] According to the above-mentioned example 1, to therefore, the power detector 40 which detects the effective transmission power to the plasma chamber 20 By having transposed the power operation in a RF to the operation of low frequency, having changed the RF into low frequency and holding the electrical potential difference in low frequency, and the phase relation of a current using the double-balanced mixers 46a and 46b as a frequency-mixing machine The multiplier 48 of the electrical potential difference which becomes with an integrated circuit, and a current can calculate high-frequency power in the frequency band which can operate sufficiently stably. Moreover, conventionally, although the voltage standing wave stood after the outgoing end of a matching circuit 30 for complexconjugate impedance matching, it was the effect of a plasma impedance and the error was large to power detection in the transmission line whose characteristic impedance is usually 50ohms Since both multiplication detected power in the above-mentioned example, holding an electrical potential difference and the phase relation of a current Exact power [ be / nothing ] can be detected with regards to the characteristic impedance of a transmission line, and transmission effective power can be controlled by applying an electrical potential difference and the effective power value based on the multiplication result of a current for negative feedback to the gain equalization circuit 4 of RF generator 10. [0023] In the example 1 of which example 2. \*\*\*\* was done, although the power detector 40 was established in the matching circuit 30 and the transmission line between the plasma chambers 20, the above-mentioned power detector 40 can also be installed near the discharge electrode in the plasma chamber 20. Moreover, it can also be made to build in a matching circuit 30. Like this technique, monitors, such as high-frequency voltage and a phase of a current, and amplitude, are cheaply made by changing the frequency of high-frequency power into low frequency, using the doublebalanced mixers 46a and 46b as a frequency-mixing machine.

[0024] Moreover, the IMBI dance in the input edge of a matching circuit 30 has an electrical potential difference and a

current in phase, and although resistance is controlled automatically to be set to 50 ohms, a current and the phase contrast of an electrical potential difference can be known by inputting high-frequency voltage instead of inputting a local frequency, without using the local power source 45 of <u>drawing 3</u> also for the phase contrast detection at this time. The absolute value of an IMBI dance can be made to be able to calculate in a low frequency region using a double-balanced mixer and a divider like <u>drawing 3</u>, and can be made into the control signal of a matching circuit using this value and the above-mentioned phase contrast.

[0025] This invention can be carried out according to the following modes.

- Make the power detector 40 build in RF generator 10.
- Make the power detector 40 build in a matching circuit 30.
- Attach the power detector 40 to the plasma chamber 20. [0026]

[Effect of the Invention] According to this invention, that detection value as mentioned above, by applying negative feedback to an RF generator as a power detection value by detecting the effective transmission power supplied to a plasma chamber by the power detector Loss of an electric supply system can be compensated and plasma discharge can be stabilized. The classification of an electric supply cable, If all of the difference of loss by the difference in die length, the difference of the heat loss inside a matching circuit, and the difference of loss by the model can be compensated, assignment effective power can be certainly transmitted to a plasma chamber and stabilization of the plasma can be measured Both \*\*\*\* between equipment can be lost, it comes, and equalization of the plasma process of a production site can be measured.

[0027] Moreover, the electrical potential difference of the RF output transmitted to the above-mentioned plasma chamber as the above-mentioned power detector and a detection means to detect a current, The mixer which carries out the multiplication of the electrical potential difference and current of a RF output which were detected to a different frequency component, and carries out frequency mixing, The high region inhibition filter from which the high frequency component of the electrical potential difference outputted from this mixer and a current is removed, By having had the multiplier which becomes with the electrical potential difference through this high region inhibition filter, and the integrated circuit which performs the multiplication of a current, and the low-pass filter which separates only an in one direction flowed part of the output of this multiplier The power operation in a RF is transposed to the operation of low frequency, changing a RF into low frequency and holding the electrical potential difference in low frequency, and the phase relation of a current. The multiplier of the electrical potential difference which becomes with an integrated circuit, and a current can calculate high-frequency power in the frequency band which can operate sufficiently stably, and can detect exact power [be/nothing] with regards to the characteristic impedance of a transmission line. By applying an electrical potential difference and the effective power value based on the multiplication result of a current for negative feedback to an RF generator, exact transmission effective power is controllable.

[Translation done.]